

Apple Health (Medicaid) State Plan Amendment Updates

February - March 2024

How does the state change the state plan?

Changes to the state plan are called a State Plan Amendments (SPA).

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) reviews each SPA to determine whether it meets federal requirements and policies.

If CMS does not approve a SPA within 90 days, the request is considered to be approved.

The state plan is updated when CMS issues final approval of a SPA.

Attachment 3, section 6.d Other Licensed Practitioners

Mental health services:

- Currently within section 6.d, independently licensed counselors/social workers and above (psychologists) are allowable provider types for outpatient mental health services.
- Licensed counselor/social worker associates are not currently listed.

Substance use disorder services:

- Currently Substance Use Disorder Professionals (SUDPs) are not listed in section 6.d.
- SUDPs and SUDPTs are in section 13d of the state plan, which is utilized by licensed Behavioral Health Agencies.

State Plan Amendment - Associates

- ▶ The SPA will add the following allowable provider types:
 - ▶ Licensed Mental Health Counselor Associates
 - ▶ Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist Associates
 - ▶ Licensed Independent Clinical Social Workers Associates
 - ▶ Licensed Advanced Social Worker Associates
- ▶ When the SPA is approved and the mental health billing guide (part 1) is amended, it will no longer be allowable for the above associates to bill under their clinical supervisor.
- ▶ These providers will work within their scope of practice and be the servicing clinician on their claims. The mental health billing guide (part 1) will be updated (anticipated July 1, 2024).

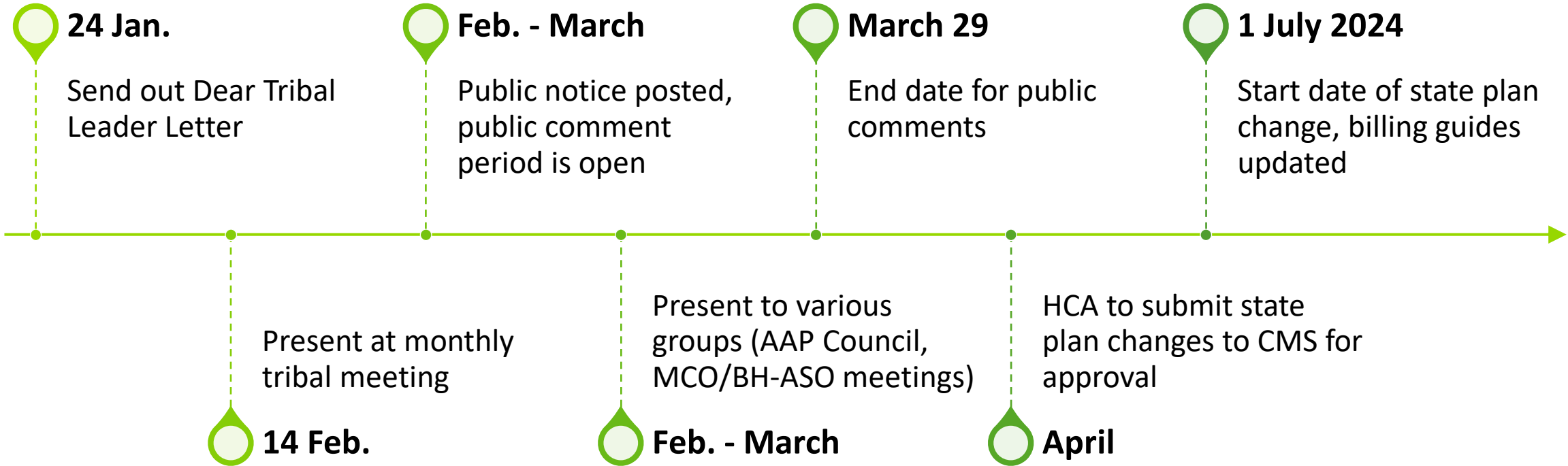
State Plan Amendment – Substance Use Disorder Professionals (SUDPs)

- ▶ The SPA will add SUDPs to Attachment 3, section 6d of the state plan as a provider type.
- ▶ This will expand the settings in which SUDPs can provide services within their scope of practice to include non-BHA settings, FQHCs, rural health clinics, primary care clinics, and other settings.
- ▶ If SPA is approved by CMS, the SUD billing guide will include these changes (anticipated July 1, 2024).

Intended Outcomes

- ▶ HCA strives to ensure Medicaid enrollees have:
 - ▶ Equitable access across the full continuum, with a no wrong door approach
 - ▶ Improved experience by bolstering access to services
 - ▶ Integrated services
- ▶ HCA strives to help providers fully utilize available workforce and support recruitment and retention, especially in rural communities.





Public notice and comment period

- ▶ February 6 – March 29, 2024.
- ▶ [View HCA public notices.](#)
- ▶ [Subscribe to HCA program updates.](#)
- ▶ [Email Yvonne Keller](#) with public comments.

QUESTIONS



To learn
more:

[Email Yvonne Keller.](#)